Monthly Gas Utility Statistical Report

A1775-2

American Gas Association

Department of Statistics

American Gas Association
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March 1986

Residential and commercial sales increased while industrial and electic generation sales decreased in March, 1986 compared with last year. Total utility sales were down from 1366.3 trillion Btu in March, 1985 to 1230.9 trillion Btu in March, 1986. Transportaion volumes to end-users were up 41.1 percent compared with last year.

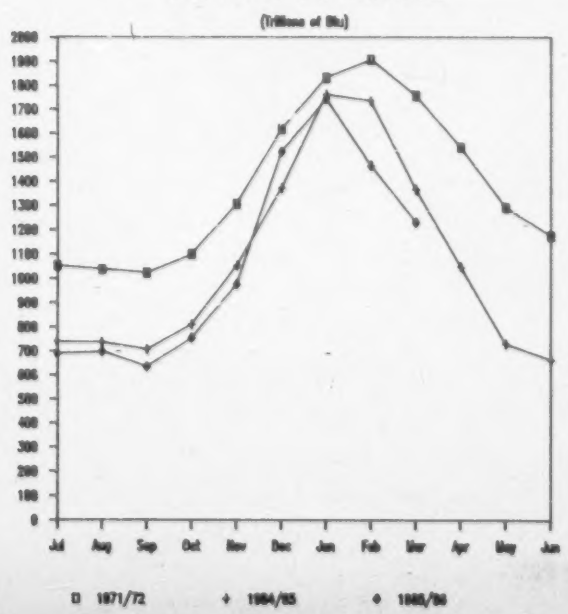
GAS UTILITY VOLUMES TO ULTIMATE CONSUMERS (Trillions of Btu)

	March			Heating Season (Nov-Mar)		January 1 to December 31		
	1986	1985	%Change[1]	1986	Last Period	1986 Forecast[2]	1985[P]	% Change
Residential	574.8	569.7	+ 0.9	3,114.1	- 0.8	4,524.0	4,547.8	- 0.5
Commercial	276.7	275.1	+ 0.6	1,529.0	+ 0.6	2,359.5	2,363.4	- 0.2
Industrial	299.0	360.3	- 17.0	1,650.8	- 11.9	3,556.0	3,712.1	- 4.2
Elec. Gen.	65.8	145.9	- 54.9	560.8	- 16.3	1,689.3	1,823.0	- 7.3
Other	14.6	15.3	-	85.5	-	140.8	141.8	-
Total Sales	1,230.9	1,366.3	- 9.9	6,940.2	- 4.8	12,269.6	12,588.1	- 2.5
Transportation	139.4	98.8	+ 41.1	660.2	+ 50.4	N/A	N/A	
Total Volumes	1,370.3	1,465.1	- 6.5	7,600.4	- 1.7	N/A	N/A	
Degree Days*	549	573	- 4.2	3,728	- 2.5			

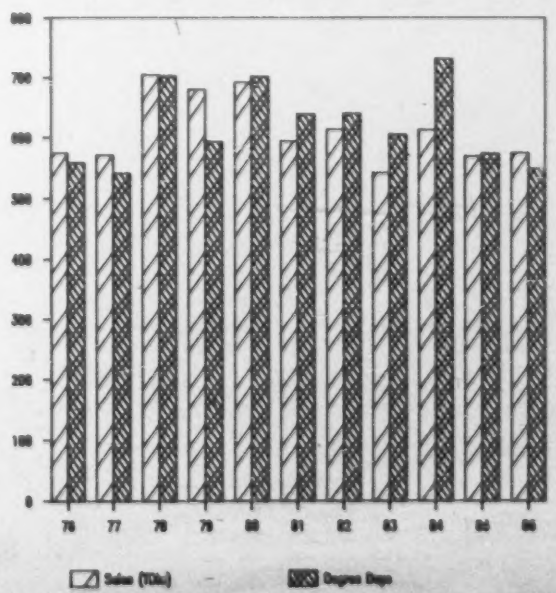
*Source: (NOAA-Weighted by Gas Homeheating Customers - Normal for March is 657.)

Gas volumes are based on a sample of 69 companies whose sales constitute about 65 percent of the total gas utility sales to ultimate consumers. The peak year in total sales for the gas utility industry occurred in 1972.

TOTAL MONTHLY GAS UTILITY SALES



MARCH RESIDENTIAL GAS UTILITY SALES



RESIDENTIAL APPLIANCE SHIPMENTS - MARCH
(Thousands of Units)

	1986	1985	% Change '85 vs '86
Domestic Range			
Gas	166.7	164.1	+ 1.6
Electric	240.0	240.9	- 0.4
Clothes Dryers			
Gas	69.1	60.2	+ 14.8
Electric	244.9	229.7	+ 6.6
Water Heaters			
Gas	342.9	286.3	+ 19.8
Electric	306.4	282.0	+ 8.7
Warm Air Furnaces			
Gas	159.8	125.9	+ 27.0
Electric	33.1	32.7	+ 1.3
Oil	9.7	8.7	+ 10.9
Boilers			
Gas	9.4	8.9	+ 5.5
Electric	0.1	0.1	+ 12.8
Oil	7.6	6.7	+ 13.5

Sources: Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association (GAMA)

ECONOMIC INDICATORS - MARCH

	1986	1985	% Change '85 vs '86
Total Actual Private Housing Starts (Thous. of units)	150.1	145.0	+ 3.5
Consumer Price Index (All urban, unadjusted, 1967 = 100)			
Gas (utility pipe gas)	553.3	580.1	- 4.6
Electricity	362.2	354.2	+ 2.3
Fuel Oil	543.5	626.3	- 13.2

Sources: Department of Commerce, Bureau of Labor Statistics

Index Total Gas Sales (1972 = 100)	70.0	77.7	- 9.9
Gas Utility Prices ($/MMBtu)			
Residential	5.58	5.84	- 4.5
Commercial	5.22	5.54	- 5.8
Industrial	3.97	4.43	- 10.4
Electric Generation	2.78	3.98	- 30.2
Total	4.94	5.19	- 4.8
Carriage Volumes[3] (trillions of Btu)			
To Ultimate Consumers	139.4	98.8	+ 41.1
For Ultimate Consumers	42.3	37.3	+ 13.4
For Resale	412.8	311.2	+ 32.6
Total	594.5	447.3	+ 32.9

\Source: A.G.A.

AVERAGE GAS UTILITY PRICES FOR THE 12 MONTH PERIOD ENDING
($/MMBtu)

Year	Month	Total	Res.	Comm.	Ind.[4]	Elec. Gen.	Other
1978	Dec.	2.184	2.534	2.279	1.895	N/A	1.788
1979	Dec.	2.522	2.918	2.665	2.231	N/A	1.937
1980	Dec.	3.134	3.612	3.336	2.792	N/A	2.667
1981	Dec.	3.650	4.161	3.909	3.292	N/A	3.458
1982	Dec.	4.456	4.969	4.721	4.003	N/A	4.303
1983	Dec.	5.120	5.882	5.508	4.408	N/A	4.921
1984	Dec.	5.128	5.938	5.511	4.355	N/A	4.869
1985[P]	Mar.	5.136	5.979	5.526	4.411	4.179	4.795
	Apr.	5.140	5.995	5.536	4.412	4.180	4.791
	May	5.138	6.003	5.536	4.404	4.164	4.771
	Jun.	5.136	6.007	5.531	4.394	4.151	4.763
	Jul.	5.125	6.005	5.524	4.378	4.100	4.745
	Aug.	5.108	6.004	5.518	4.350	4.028	4.711
	Sep.	5.099	6.000	5.507	4.346	3.976	4.700
	Oct.	5.084	5.988	5.492	4.326	3.934	4.680
	Nov.	5.059	5.972	5.469	4.297	3.886	4.685
	Dec.	5.019	5.912	5.418	4.258	3.855	4.644
1986[P]	Jan.	4.975	5.846	5.385	4.223	3.816	4.619
	Feb.	4.939	5.826	5.355	4.178	3.777	4.609
	Mar.	4.911	5.793	5.317	4.135	3.720	4.572

AVERAGE MONTHLY GAS UTILITY PRICES
($/MMBtu)

Year	Month	Total	Res.	Comm.	Ind.& Elec.	Ind. Only	Elec. Only
1984	Mar.	5.17	5.73	5.49	4.36	4.43	4.11
	Apr.	5.09	5.77	5.51	4.31	4.37	4.12
	May	5.08	6.14	5.55	4.34	4.37	4.25
	Jun.	5.00	6.55	5.68	4.31	4.39	4.17
	Jul.	4.95	6.95	5.67	4.34	4.35	4.32
	Aug.	4.93	7.04	5.55	4.32	4.37	4.25
	Sep.	5.03	7.03	5.63	4.36	4.39	4.30
	Oct.	5.05	6.56	5.58	4.31	4.35	4.24
	Nov.	5.15	6.01	5.47	4.37	4.40	4.29
	Dec.	5.31	5.87	5.52	4.45	4.53	4.22
1985[P]	Jan.	5.23	5.77	5.53	4.31	4.44	3.98
	Feb.	5.22	5.67	5.43	4.36	4.51	3.90
	Mar.	5.19	5.84	5.54	4.30	4.43	3.98
	Apr.	5.15	5.93	5.63	4.29	4.37	4.14
	May	5.04	6.34	5.54	4.19	4.26	4.01
	Jun.	4.95	6.69	5.58	4.15	4.24	4.02
	Jul.	4.74	6.89	5.48	4.00	4.10	3.87
	Aug.	4.61	6.99	5.38	3.87	4.06	3.64
	Sep.	4.83	6.89	5.36	4.00	4.21	3.71
	Oct.	4.81	6.30	5.30	3.96	4.08	3.73
	Nov.	4.83	5.80	5.17	3.92	4.05	3.66
	Dec.	4.95	5.49	5.16	4.01	4.11	3.73
1986[P]	Jan.	4.92	5.41	5.19	3.95	4.12	3.50
	Feb.	4.96	5.51	5.23	3.87	4.07	3.13
	Mar.	4.94	5.58	5.22	3.75	3.97	2.78

Editor - Susan Brown (703/841-8503)

[1]The percent change is a function of the 69 sample companies.
[2]1986 forecasts for the residential and commercial sectors are based on available 1986 monthly data with the remaining months derived by using a four year average. The industrial sector forecast (both industrial only and electric generation) is also based on available 1986 monthly data with the remaining months of 1986 heavily weighted by last years sales with no adjustment made for degree days.
[3]Carriage volumes determined by using a simple straight expansion of sample data to represent the total gas utility industry. Carriage volumes for ultimate consumers are volumes owned by the ultimate consumer but delivered to another transporter, not the ultimate consumer, and are therefore broken out to eliminate double counting of volumes delivered to ultimate consumers.
[4]Includes electric generation before 1985.
P-Preliminary.